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09/805,969	03/15/2001	William Ender	ONS00230	3926

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EXAMINER

THAI, HANH B

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2171

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Applicant(s)

09/805,969

Applicant(s)

ENDER ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh B Thai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 and 11-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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This is in response to amendment filed January 23, 2004.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

1. Claims 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Regarding claim 13, it is not understood how the “system of record external to the central directory” is related to the “second database”.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Trenbeath et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,324,587) in view of Martin, Jr. et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,304,860) in further view of Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588).

Regarding claim 1, Trenbeath discloses an information management system organized to maintain an accurate representation of a list of data objects, comprising:

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- a system of record coupled to receive data objects (see col. 3, lines 39-43 and col. 9, lines 36-38, Trenbeath). “The publication folder” (108, Fig. 5B) corresponds to “system of record” that receives data objects;
- an updating system coupled to receive the data objects from the system of record and coupled to provide the data objects organized into a first list of data objects in a first format (see col.6, lines 57-61 and col. 9, lines 36-41, Trenbeath). “client A” (publication client) corresponds to an “updating system” that providing the data objects organized into a list of data objects with its appropriated format (110. Fig. 5B, Trenbeath); and
- a directory coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide a second list of data objects in a second format (see Fig. 7 and col. 12, line51 to col. 13, line 3, Trenbeath). “folder directory” (Fig. 7) containing a “publication folder” (190, Fig.7) is the first list of data objects and “subscription folder” (192, Fig.7) is the second list of data objects.

Trenbeath, however, does not disclose “the updating system at the predetermined Intervals”. Martin, on the other hand, discloses an automated transaction information system that updates periodically (see col. 5, lines 9-13 and col. 6, lines 7-11, Martin). Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify Trenbeath to include the claimed feature as taught by Martin because it is efficient and provides the user with direct and timely access to the information (see col. 8, lines 25-32, Martin).

Trenbeath and martin combination does not disclose “a security system external to the central directory, the security system containing a second database”. Marchoili, on the other

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hand, discloses a system for controlling access in multiple regions that include the security system (26, Fig. 2) external to the database (28, Fig.2) which corresponds to the central directory (see col.5, lines 42-47, Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili). It would have been obvious to modify the system of Trenbeath and Martin to include the claimed feature as taught by Marchoili because it provides enhanced flexibility controlling access throughout integrated facilities (see col.3, lines 43-53, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 2, Trenbeath/Martin/Marchoili combination discloses a graphical interface coupled to provide a data input mechanism to the system of record and coupled to provide a data output mechanism from the system of record (see col. 1, lines 51-57 and Fig. 1, Martin). ATM corresponds to a graphical interface; and a communication interface coupled to provide two-way communication between the system of record (18 "CONSUMER'S BANK", Fig. 2, Martin) and the updating system (see 14 "TRANSACTION", Fig. 2 and col. 9, lines 45-49 and 14, Martin).

Regarding claim 3, Trenbeath/Martin/Marchoili combination discloses the updating system comprises a file transfer mechanism coupled to transfer the first list of data objects and coupled to transfer the second list of data objects at the predetermined intervals (see col. 9, line 45 to col. 10, line4, Martin).

Regarding claim 4, Trenbeath/Martin/Marchoili combination discloses a first directory server (12, Fig.2, marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects and coupled to provide the second list of data objects; and a second directory server (14, Fig. 2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first list of data objects from the first directory server to maintain redundant sets of the first list of data objects (see Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).

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3. Claims 5-9 and 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Man-Hak Tso (U. S. Patent no. 5,706,509).

Regarding claim 5, Marchoili discloses an information management system coupled to maintain synchronization (see col.7, line 50 to col. 8, line 7, Marchoili) of first data objects contained within a first storage area (database 16, Fig. 2, Marchoili) to second data objects contained within a second storage area (database 18, Fig.2), the information management system comprising:

- A plurality of devices for use by users of the information management system (see the plurality of devices of the plurality of the regions:1-n, Fig.2 of Marchoili).
- A central directory (database 16, Fig.2, marchoili) having the first storage area (16, Fig.2) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to store the data objects into the first storage area wherein the plurality of devices have access to information stored within the central directory;
- A security system (26, Fig.2) external to the central directory, the security system having the second storage area that includes the second data objects wherein the second data objects include at least a portion of information that is also within the first data object (see col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili);
- an event system coupled to detect a first set of all changes made to the first data objects (see col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, marchoili); and

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- an update system coupled to receive the second set of changes and coupled to modify the second data objects in response to the second set of changes (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “a second set of changes equal to a portion of the first set of all changes”. Man-Hak Tso, on the other hand, discloses this limitation (see col. 2, lines 56-60 and abstract of Man-Hak Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Man-Hak Tso).

Regarding claim 6, marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses a directory server 26, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects and coupled to provide the first data objects to the first storage area contained within the directory server; and a connection server (12, Fig.2, Marchoili) coupled to receive the first data objects from the first storage area and coupled to provide the second data objects to the second storage area within the security system.

Regarding claim 7, Marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses an event monitor coupled to receive the first set of changes made to the first data objects (see col. 4, lines 33-45, Man-Hak Tso); and a log application coupled to receive the first set of changes and coupled to provide the second set of changes at predetermined time intervals (see col. 3, lines 1-42 and col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, marchoili).

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Regarding claim 8, Marchoili discloses a method of operating an automatically updated information management system, comprising:

- forming a central directory having a first database having employee information (see col. 5, lines 42-47 and elements 26, 28, Fig. 2 and corresponding text, Marchoili). Marchoili does not disclose “financial system of record”, but it must be include in the “Corporate human Resources Database” (Fig.2, Marchoili).
- Providing a human resources system or record external to the central directory (see Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Providing a security system external to the central directory (26, Fig.2; col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili)
- editing a first data object in a first device; and detecting changes made to the first data object in the first device (col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).
- Synchronizing the second data object with the portion of the employee information within the security system (see col. 8, lines 1-7, marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “equating a second data object to the first data object upon detection of the changes made to the first data object”. Man-Hak Tso, on the other hand, discloses this limitation (see col. 2, lines 56-60 and abstract of Man-Hak Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Man-Hak Tso).

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Regarding claim 9, marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses authenticating a user at a data terminal (see col. 4, lines 15-39, Marchoili); and performing a data edit operation within the first device (see col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 11, Marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses executing an event services function within the first device; and logging events from the event services function (see col.5, lines 13-26, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 12, Trenbeath/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses examining the logged events that affect the second data object; and updating the second data objects affected by the logged events to equate the second data objects to the first data objects (see col.5, lines36-43, Man-Hak Tso).

Regarding claim 13, marchoili discloses a method of using an information management system to validate an external set of information, comprising:

- storing a set of internal information in a first database within a central directory (see elements 12, 16, Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili);
- receiving a set of external information (see col. 5, lines 42-61, Marchoili);
- comparing the set of external information to the set of internal information to produce a set of difference information (see col. 5, line 62 to col. 6, line 11, Marchoili).
- Synchronizing the difference information with a set of security information (see col.8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

Marchoili, however, does not explicitly disclose “utilizing the set of difference information”. Man-Hak Tso, on the other hand, discloses this limitation (see col. 2, lines 56-60

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and abstract of Man-Hak Tso). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Marchoili to include the step of equating the first set of data objects to the second set of data objects. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide implementing synchronization of data between applications with different data formats (see col. 2, lines 46-48, Man-Hak Tso).

Regarding claim 14, Marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses receiving a set of external information in a directory comprises engaging a first file transfer function at predetermined intervals to place a file of information into a repository (see col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 15, Marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses engaging a second file transfer function at the predetermined intervals to retrieve the file of information from the repository; and comparing the file of information to the internal information to produce the difference information (see col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 16, Marchoili/Man-Hak Tso combination further discloses utilizing the set of difference information to alter the set of external information comprises engaging a scrubbing function to create an error report utilized to correct errors in the external information (see col. 2, lines 56-60 and abstract of Man-Hak Tso).

4. Claims 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Moreh et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,158,007) in view of Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588).

Regarding claim 17, Moreh discloses a method of using an information management system to facilitate a new hiring process, comprising:

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- entering data associated with a new employee into a directory (see Fig. 6 and col. 11, lines 3-7, Moreh); and
- adding the employee to an updating function of the information management system (see col. 11, lines 33-41, Moreh).

Moreh, however, does not explicitly disclose automatically requesting employee services from within the central directory and security information stored in a second database within a security system. Marchoili, on the other hand, discloses an automatic updated data information in the access control security system including the security badge for ingress and egress procedures (see col.3, lines 16-42 and col.4, lines 15-39, Marchoili). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Moreh to automatically inquire the information in the directory as taught by Marchoili. The motivation of doing so would have been to provide enhanced flexibility controlling access throughout integrated facilities (see col.3, lines 43-53, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 18, Moreh/Marchoili combination further discloses authenticating a user at a data terminal (see col. 7, lines 21-23, Moreh); and performing a data edit operation within the information management system to add data objects associated with the new employee (see col. 11, lines 33-41, Moreh).

Regarding claim 19, Moreh/Marchoili combination does not disclose electronic mail accounts, and electronic schedulers. But it is well known to include these features in the combination system of Moreh and Marchoili.

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Regarding claim 20, Moreh/Marchoili combination further discloses that the automatic file transfer mechanism synchronizes employee data between a first device and a second device (see col.8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

Regarding claim 21, Moreh/Marchoili combination further discloses triggering an event in response to adding the employee; and initiating a data transfer from a first system to a second system in response to the event (col. 5, lines 42-61; Fig.2 and corresponding text and col. 8, lines 1-7, Marchoili).

5. Claims 22-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Marchoili et al. (U. S. patent no. 6,233,588) in view of Man-Hak Tso (U. S. Patent no. 5,706,509) and further view of Nerlikar (U. S. patent no. 5,629,981).

Marchoili and Man-Hak Tso combination discloses all of the claimed limitations as discussed above, except the “financial system wherein the information includes asset information”. But, it is well to have this information system to put into the system of Marchoili and Man-Hak Tso (see col. 15, lines 5-15, Nerlikar).). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination system of Marchoili and Man-Hak Tso because it would have been to provides enhanced flexibility controlling access throughout integrated facilities (see col.3, lines 43-53, Marchoili).

Conclusion

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

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A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B Thai whose telephone number is 703-305-4883. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Hanh Thai *HT*

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April 16, 2004



UYEN LE
PRIMARY EXAMINER